



OFFICIAL
NEWSPAPER
OF NOTTS COUNTY
FOOTBALL
CLUB

15p

MAGPIE

VOLUME 2 NUMBER TWO
SATURDAY SEPT. 4 1976

v BOLTON

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

WELCOME WANDERERS!

**GIRLS! YOUR
CHANCE TO BE
THE NEW 'MISS
NOTTS. COUNTY'**



**PENNY
HILDITCH
1974-75**



**SUSAN
SIMS
1975-76**



**WHO IS THE
GIRL FOR
1976-77?**

Tuesday, October 5 is the date for your diary girls. That's the night the new Miss Notts. County will be chosen at the Sherwood Rooms, Nottingham. The winner will receive a £50 prize and there are also cash prizes for the girls who finish second and third. Enter now, there is an entry form in this publication on Page 12.



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MAGPIE ACTION

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The Magpie

Official Newspaper
of Notts County
Football Club

Notts County Football
Club, Meadow Lane, Not-
tingham.
(Established 1862)
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Office 868494, Commercial
Manager 868177, Pools
Office 864718.

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"County 75".

STUART BURGAN



THE TALENT DRAIN: IS THIS ONLY A START?

IT'S starting to happen in foot-
ball, the "talent drain" to other
countries. Oh I know that in the
past players like John Charles,
Jimmy Greaves and Denis Law
have been tempted abroad by
the lure of big money and high
standards of living, and that of
late some ageing and ('some not
quite top class') players have
made the move to America.

Good luck to them and I hope
that the great game develops in
the States through their efforts
but, and herein lies the danger,
our top players are now being
wooded away whilst still in their
prime.

ENCOURAGED

In the long term this could
have a disastrous effect on the
Football League. How can our
football improve — by attacking
concepts, by allowing particular
skillful players a free hand — as
is continually encouraged by
the media, spectators and man-
agers, if the very players with
the ability to improve our game
are lured abroad? Already
players of spectacular skills,
like Duncan McKenzie and
Roger Davies, have gone. Could
this be just the beginning of a
mass emigration?

Let us hope not, at least the
players already departed have
gone in honesty stating that the
offer they received was, "out of
this world," "impossible to turn
down" etc., etc.

Fine, I see nothing wrong with
anybody moving on to further
their careers and make more
secure their future, after all the
playing "life" of a professional
footballer is quite short.

But, I do not like the situations
where a person goes abroad
and gives, to my mind, dishon-
est reasons.

LOGIC

A certain player is reported as
saying that at the end of this
season he will definitely look
abroad for his future. Okay, as I
wrote earlier if a footballer sees
his career as being better furth-
ered abroad, I have no argu-
ments. I am disappointed, but do
see the logic of his decision.

But, as this is my hobby horse
this week, why oh why does the
reason for going have to be
"hidden."

You see I believe (cynic that I
may be), that this player will go
abroad, if he goes at all for
monetary reasons. To earn

more money, more quickly and
provide for his family's future.
How many of us would not do
that?

Instead of these reasons
being quoted, the player is attri-
buted as saying things like, "I
want to prove myself else-
where" and the intimation
was that he needed to play with
the world's best players to prove
his ability.

COMPETITIVE

It's strange that, because I
always understood that the
English Football League was
the most competitive and high-
est standard of any League in
the world!

On reflection though this may
be brain-washing on the part of
the media, because it does
seem odd that the best league in
the world doesn't produce the
best players doesn't it? How-
ever I must concede that it is just
possible that my cynicism is
unfounded in this case.

In any event it must be nice to
have the choice of going or stay-
ing mustn't it? Just think that
through an accident of birth
some people have a talent
which enables them to have the
chance of earning vast amounts
of money.

And further these people are
then able to come out with the
now well worn cliché of, "I am
going to live abroad, I don't want
to go but the tax situation in Bri-
tain is such that I am working
hard and receiving only 20 per
cent of my earnings, the tax man
is forcing me away".

CHOICE

Oh that I should have such a
problem! Nobody is forcing
these people away are they?
They go strictly from choice, and
I must admit I don't blame them.

I am as patriotic as the next
man, possibly more than most,
but faced with the decision of
staying in Britain and earning
say, £5,000 per year under our
tax system, or going abroad and
earning £15,000 per year with a
lesser tax liability, well I think I
know what I would do. How
about you?

But, I have not the talent so I
will not be asked to make that
choice.

Wait a minute though, I have
just heard that the Hawai Hus-
tlers are looking for a commer-
cial manager, must close now I
have a letter to write!

Odds and...

Manchester United
trainer Tommy Cavanagh
became the first English-
man ever to handle the
Northern Ireland interna-
tional team when named
recently by manager
Danny Blanchflower as his
assistant.

No fewer than 17 clubs
last season set up new
records for players mak-
ing most League appear-
ances — Aldershot (Len
Walker), Arsenal (George
Armstrong), Aston Villa
(Charlie Aitken), Cam-
bridge (Terry Eades), Car-
lisle (Allan Ross), Chelsea
(Peter Bonetti), Hereford
(Billy Tucker), Liverpool
(Ian Callaghan), Manches-
ter City (Alan Oakes), Old-
ham (Ian Wood), Orient
(Peter Allen), Oxford (John
Shuker), Stoke (Eric
Skeels), Sunderland (Jim
Montgomery), Swindon
(John Trollope), Tot-
tenham (Pat Jennings)
and Wrexham (Arfon Grif-
fiths).

Manchester United last
season had eleven players
chosen for full interna-

tional honours — Stuart
Pearson, Brian Greenhoff
and Gordon Hill (England),
Alex Forsyth, Stewart
Houston and Martin
Buchan (Scotland),
Sammy McIlroy, David
McGreery and Jimmy
Nicholl (Northern Ireland),
plus Gerry Daly and Paddy
Roche (Republic of Ire-
land).

Dixie Deans, Luton's
close-season capture from
Celtic, scored 119 goals in
his five seasons with the
celts who paid Motherwell
£22,000 for him in 1971.

A record number of
former League Champ-
ions and F.A. Cup winners
are this season playing in
the Third and Fourth Divi-
sions: Portsmouth, Pre-
ston, Sheffield Wednes-
day and Huddersfield (all
of whom have won both
the Cup and League), Bury
and Bradford City (Cup
winners). Preston were the
first club ever to win the
double, in 1889.

By TONY PULLEIN

When Ron Davies and
Ken Wagstaff were both
freed by their clubs last
season, Derby's Kevin Hec-
tor took over as the
League's most prolific
scorer. By the end of last
season he had scored 253
times in League games.
Next came Allan Clarke
(Leeds) with 201.

If England beat the
Republic of Ireland in the
friendly international at
Wembley on September
8th, it will be the first time
in Don Revie's reign that
they have strung up four
wins in a row. During the
summer England beat Italy
3-2, Team America 3-1, and
Finland 4-1 — all away
from home.

Paul Hopkinson, the
young Stockport goal-
keeper given his senior
chance last season, is the
son of former England
'keeper Eddie Hopkinson
who won 14 caps in his Bol-
ton days.

...ends

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Let's have less talk!

THEN
WE CAN
ENJOY
THE
VIEWING

NOW the season has begun and we are 'treated', — if that's the word, — to a weekly fare of televised soccer, I wonder how many people share my view that there's an urgent need of some skilled silence as far as the accompanying commentaries go?

I was prompted to think about this when I recently read in the DAILY TELEGRAPH an article by a gentleman who was semi-seriously suggesting the launching of a C E A S E campaign. The initial letters, according to him, stand for Campaign for Eliminating Abhorrent Sporting Effusions!

At the moment there aren't many members but, as the football season builds up, he, like me, can see many millions of people wanting to join.

The point he made was that whilst we in the main enjoy the pictures of the games we are shown, all too frequently the commentators intrude with their banal remarks and thereby distract the viewer, particularly with their boring clichés.

The TV medium is essentially one of showing us pictures; be they pictures of plays, variety, sport or theatre. Therefore, it would seem to me that a commentary is somewhat superfluous.

I accept, however, that sometimes, in relation to soccer the boredom of the televised excerpt is often relieved of its tedium by a comment or two which, in themselves are often quite amusing!

However, look at it this way. If you are a season ticket holder at a football, cricket or rugby club, the last thing you enjoy when sitting down to watch is the bloke on your left or right, in front or behind, giving his running commentary on what you yourself can already see going on.

Yet that is what happens during the showing of these TV football matches.

Personally I was never a great admirer of the early TV commentaries of Kenneth Wolstenholme when he first worked for the BBC and they began to show televised soccer. Nothing personal, it was just that he got under my skin a little, I know many shared this view.

During the summer the BBC helped us re-live the glory of England's 1966 World Cup win at Wembley over West Germany by re-showing the entire game again as it was originally televised; I listened and watched very closely.

Surprise, surprise... and it adds weight to my theory I think... the remarks that he made were few and far between and he actually went many seconds, sometimes a full minute or so, without saying a word. Letting us see for ourselves and making up our own minds.

Far different today; David Coleman, John Motson, Barry Davies, Brian Moore, and Hugh Johns blather on and on through the showing of the excerpts to such a degree that I feel the enjoyment of the viewer is spoiled to a large extent. If a picture story is worth telling with the camera, then it is silly to place obstacles, in the form of wordy commentary, in their way.

DOMINATE

Ideal football coverage should allow the sounds of the game and the crowd to dominate the soundtrack and the commentator merely be used as an analyst to explain the how and why of events — sparingly at that.

TV is not radio. The latter obviously needs wordage because we cannot see what is happening.

Cricket coverage on the TV is more praiseworthy. Here the camera follows the action and the commentators are usually cricketing experts — former players like Jim Laker, Fred Trueman, Ted Dexter and Richie Benaud. Their comments are unobtrusive and to the point, given when there is a break in the proceedings and always we are given the advantage of their experience and expertise. Explaining to us what the lay eye cannot always see.

Secretary speaking



The Dennis Marshall Column

In respect of soccer from conversations I have with many people I feel I am not alone in this grumble I do appreciate that there are many millions of people who enjoy both the picture and the words, but I for one would settle for more of the former and less of the latter!

I had several letters in during the summer from people who are complaining to me about the amount of coverage that the Sports Editor of the local paper gave to Duncan McKenzie's possible transfer to Nottingham Forest. Why they wrote to me I don't know... they perhaps thought I would wield my 'influence' with him and take it up on their behalf!

One of them made a very valid point but, even so, he should have made it to the right quarter, then he would have had the satisfaction at least of knowing it had gone to the person concerned.

He reasoned with me in his letter that the possible transfer of the former Leeds player back to the Forest was nothing more than rumour, hearsay, or supposition. The fact is that the Forest club themselves did not come out-right and indicate their chances one way or the other. But Sports Editor, on two separate occasions, ran a back page lead under his own banner (considering his 'story' to be far too important, one supposes, to entrust to the normally assigned Forest reporter?) suggesting he knew the transfer was imminent and for people constantly ringing him or contacting him, to be patient etc.

My complainants said they thought it was a bit off that a reputable newspaper would devote so much space to what on the surface at any rate, appeared nothing more tangible than a nudge or a wink and a nod!

Correct of course. But one supposes the Sports Editor had more knowledge than he was admitting to about the 'story' and certainly he has more experience of what is news than any of us.

Interesting spin-off to this was that in that particular period Forest took over £10,000 in season ticket renewals and their Pools Office recruited over 150 new Agents. More than likely this was the result of the 'unofficial' Public Relations job done by that newspaper, inadvertently maybe, so Forest would be quite happy with that. Especially as the transfer never came off!!

May I just say to the many people who do, from time to time, bemoan me or to Club officials, about the stories that appear in the local or national press about the one club or the other... but specifically harping about the angles connected with County... don't write us. Write the paper concerned.

LETTERS

For instance the Football Post and Nottingham Evening Post pride themselves on dealing with letters of complaint, or with people putting views forward, very fairly. If you have anything to say... say it... but say it to the paper itself.

Any matter relating to our club addressed to us will always be answered by myself, on behalf of the Chairman and the Board, to the best of my ability excluding matters on team affairs which I am not qualified or equipped to deal with, of course.

The 'MAGPIE' has its own letters column in which you can air your views, sing our praises (!) or make your complaints about us; we welcome your contributions.

But, remember, if you are making lamentations about the local press reports and coverage of our affairs... send them to the Sports Editor of the papers concerned!

Who was our last at Wembley?



Picture by Karlis J. Dankbars

Should Ray O'Brien play in the Ireland - England game at Wembley next month, he will be the first Notts. County player to turn out on that hallowed turf for many many years. Our researchers have had problems sorting out just who was our last player to play at Wembley. Any supporter with any ideas?

Remember we are after the most recent appearance at Wembley and although we know of a few international calls to Magpies players, we cannot pin-point an actual occasion of a Wembley turn out.

In any event let us hope that Ray is selected and that he then performs in the manner that we have come to expect.

Sport for all week

SEPTEMBER 12-18, 1976

FOOTBALL is well established as Britain's national game and holds an unrivalled position as our top spectator sport. It is also one of the sports that this country has given to the rest of the world, but opportunities for taking part in football at local level are being restricted by a serious shortage of pitches, especially in our towns and cities where land is scarce.

The lack of basic community facilities for football, and for many other sports, was one of the major factors which persuaded the Sports Council to launch a national Sport for All Week. The campaign aims to highlight the needs of sport in Britain, and also encourage more people to take part. Between 12-18 September, hundreds of events are taking place all over the country featuring over 60 different sports, all with

MESSAGE FROM SIR ROBIN BROOK — CHAIRMAN OF THE SPORTS COUNCIL

something to offer in terms of fun and entertainment.

If football is to develop into the 1980's and beyond, local authorities must do more to reclaim derelict land for sports activities in general, and for football pitches in particular. More Synthetic pitches must be proved - like those in London at Islington and Hackney, each of which can take up to 40 matches a week.

There must also be more sharing of educational, industrial and private pitches if our national game is to cope with the ever increasing numbers wanting to play. And taking part is what the Sports Council's Sport for All campaign is all about.

... and don't blame us for what the papers say

BRANCH ROUND-UP

Beeston

THIS branch held their annual general meeting at the Chequers Inn, High Road, Chilwell and were able to report another successful year.

An active social calendar had been fulfilled and this had been made the more enjoyable as time progressed by the extra co-operation received when the meeting venue had been changed to the Chequers.

A highlight of the year was the visit of Ron Fenton and Colin Addison, who answered questions honestly and frankly, making an extremely interesting meeting.

It was agreed that a determined effort should be made to increase membership — in line with general policy — by means of local advertising and renewed word of mouth contact.

Eric Morrell, who joined main committee during the summer, was elected branch secretary to replace John Davey, and additions to the committee came from the Patterson family. Mrs. Patterson agreed to act as minute secretary with her son David volunteering to help membership secretary Pat Pembleton with the commencement of more activities for junior members.

David is also very involved in the branch's five-a-side football team, which it is hoped will grow into a full eleven as time progresses.

The next meeting will be held on Monday next, September 6, at the Chequers, when I have been invited to talk and answer questions

WANTED MEN

A volunteer Joiner and Electrician for a few hours work each.

Materials supplied
Contact J. Ryley
Tel. 283169

on topics of general Supporters Club interest, with special reference to our lack of social facilities and the possibilities or otherwise of building a Social Club. All members, old and new, are invited and you may enrol on the evening.

Newark and district

Another branch whose annual meeting falls in the close season, Newark's senior committee members were all re-elected to their posts — although it was noted with regret that Richard Lane had found it necessary to resign as membership secretary.

Mick Patterson, branch secretary — and as far as I know not related to the Beeston Pattersons — would be pleased to hear from anyone who would be prepared to help with branch activities. His phone number is Newark 76609.

Again, the branch had experienced difficulty during the year with finding a suitable "home" although the situation was more than satisfactorily resolved with the acquisition of the Assembly Room at the Cardinals Hat, Jersey Street.

Mine host Ray Dixon is a staunch County fan, and expressed this in the best possible way by being the first person to take up the offer to become a Supporters' Club vice-president for the season. He has also joined the branch committee to help with social events, and was seen muttering in a corner with "Running Bear" after the meeting. If you live Newark way, take my tip and watch this space for notice of a cabaret evening!

Much of Newark committee time is taken up with organising transport — to home as well as away matches — and this will of course continue for the coming season. Details from Mick Patterson.

BOYS

Under 10 year old footballers to replace over-age players.

See TOM LORD
in the Portakabin outside the main entrance

I hope to include notes on other branches in the next issue of "Magpie" and if anyone has interesting information on individual supporters, drop me a line and I will be pleased to include it at the first opportunity.

Dates for your Diary

As I am sure you will see elsewhere in "Magpie" the now traditional Miss Notts. County dance takes place at the Sherwood Rooms on October 5. We know that this unfortunately clashes with the Reserve fixture, but by the time all fixtures were known to us this was the most convenient date available.

We shall follow this with a night at the Heart of the Midlands on Monday, October 25 when the Rocking Berries will top the bill.



Tickets for both of these events are now available, priced 75p and £1.25 respectively, and can be purchased from souvenir kiosks, our booking and membership hut at the Iremonger Road end of the ground, and

from the Pools Office during the week.

Watch out for confirmation, hopefully in next issue, of an evening at the Bierkeller during November in aid of the David Needham Testimonial Fund.

To: Notts County Supporters Club, Meadow Lane Nottingham.

*I wish to become an *Annual Member/Vice President/Life Member of N.C.F.C.S.C. and enclose *50p/£5.50/£10.00

or

*I am under 18 and wish to join N.C.F.C.S.C. Junior Section. I enclose 25p

Name Phone No.

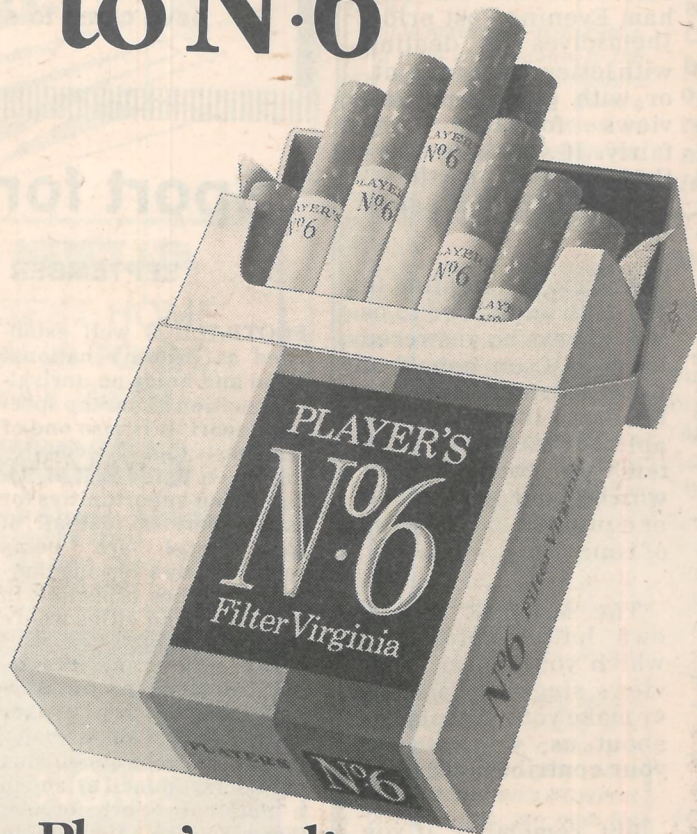
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FROM THE MANAGER'S CHAIR by Ron Fenton



AS I write, prior to our games against Plymouth Argyle and Scunthorpe United, we have played two League matches and in my opinion could quite easily have gained four points.

Quite an eventful start to the season for us, but for many other clubs also. After the first two games no Second Division side has maximum points. It seems that the margin between winning and losing is becoming narrower each season.

We had, overall, the better of things against Millwall but went down by the odd goal and then had 90 per cent of the play against Chelsea with only one point to show for it, but for the injuries I am sure we would have gained the maximum but that's football.

After the game at Stamford Bridge we find ourselves in exactly the sort of position we do not want! That is of having our two leading goalscorers — Les Bradd and Ian Scanlon — apparently with quite severe injuries and three other players, Ray O'Brien, David Needham and Mick Vinter, all requiring treatment.

Quite a headache with our limited staff. Hopefully by the time you read this most of our problems injury-wise will have cleared up.

DIFFICULT

It is always a difficult situation when key players are not fit enough to be considered for selection and this highlights the advantages of having professionals who can more than adequately fill more than one position.

I consider us particularly fortunate in having players like Arthur Mann and Tristan Benjamin who can both perform with authority in the back four, in mid-field or up front. Their versatility was proved by their respective performances in the game against Chelsea. Tristan came on as substitute for Les Bradd and did very well and Arthur Mann, who filled the berth normally reserved for the suspended Brian Stubbs,

was magnificent and did a great job at Number Six which is probably his best position.

WELL DONE

Whilst mentioning the Chelsea game, reference must be made to Dave Smith. Here is a fellow of very limited League experience who I gave the job of marking Butch Wilkins, a player rated in the £400,000 class.

Dave played Wilkins out of the game, in fact finally the Chelsea player was retreating so far back in his own half to try and get away from Dave that he was almost getting in the way of his own goalkeeper!

This fact did not go unnoticed by other experts at the game. Well done Dave.

Apart from the worry of having players injured, there is also the problem of losing their services through suspension, four of our team have already been booked this season and one, Brian Stubbs, has already suffered a one match automatic suspension because of a sending-off.

For this Brian picked up 12 suspension points and a further four for being previously booked.

This gives him a total of 16, therefore one more booking will take him to 20 and that almost certainly means a three match suspension. So we have another possible problem "hanging over our heads."

DISAPPOINTED

I was very disappointed not to sign George Armstrong from Arsenal. I had spoken to George on the telephone and was very optimistic of our chances of bringing him to Meadow Lane.

that he had changed his mind and decided to play him in the first team.

So we lost out on that one but rest assured that other players are being considered and I hope to strengthen our squad as soon as possible. If we are successful in obtaining the players we want to give us more depth, I am sure we have a great chance of promotion this season.

Nice to see two of our "old" players at Stamford Bridge the other evening. They were Don Masson and Bill Brindley. Both are doing well with their new clubs.

Bill in particular was feeling very happy. You may have read in the papers that he scored for Gillingham in his League debut for them. Yet after all those League appearances for us at Meadow Lane he never ever scored. As I said earlier that's football!

EARLY INJURIES ARE PROVING A HEADACHE



● Arthur Mann (above) did a great job in the number six shirt. Les Bradd (left) suffered a severe injury. Dave Smith (below) gave a fine performance in playing Butch Wilkins out of the game.



THE DAVID NEEDHAM TESTIMONIAL FUND

The organisers would like to acknowledge, with their gratitude and thanks, donations to the above Fund, made by the following: Mark Silverberg, Mr and Mrs. Corbett, J. E. Morris, J. K. Pickersgill, and the many anonymous donations.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to: Mr. H. Moss, The Cottage, Village Road, Clifton, Nottingham. Unless otherwise requested, your name will be acknowledged in a future issue of "Magpie".

GALA NIGHT ★ THE GRUMBLEWEEDS IN CABARET



DAVID
NEEDHAM
Testimonial fund

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BOLTON PEN PICTURES

BARRY SIDDALL — goal-keeper
Member of Don Revie's England Under-23 squad last season. Is a tall, agile player who played in all the Wanderers' 49 League and Cup games last season.

JOHN RITSON — full back
Club skipper, John was born in Liverpool and came to Bolton from schoolboy soccer. Graduated through the junior sides and is now strong defender who likes to attack down the flank.

TONY DUNNE — full back
Eire international who played for most of his career with Manchester United. Was a member of the European Cup winning side and since coming to Bolton has proved to be a favourite with the fans.

ROY GREAVES — midfield
Roy has completed 10 years with the Wanderers and had a testimonial game in the close season. He is a non-stop worker in midfield and is one of the few players to come from the Bolton area to join the Wanderers.

PAUL JONES — centre half
Born in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. Paul is another player who has been called on by England boss Don Revie to join the Under-23 squad — last season he had a trip to Budapest with them. He is a commanding player in the middle of the defence and is very good in the air.

SAM ALLARDYCE — centre half
Born in Birmingham, Sam is one of the "finds" of last season. It was his first full season and he emerged as an outstanding defender and was voted "Player of the Year" by the Wanderers' supporters.

WILLIE MORGAN — winger
Started his career with Burnley then moved to Manchester United for a big fee. He returned to Burnley and was signed by the Wanderers towards the end of last season. A Scottish international and member of the last World Cup squad.

NEIL WHATMORE — striker
Strong attacker with a flair for scoring goals. He hit 13 goals last season to become the club's joint top scorer. Is good in the air.

GARRY JONES — striker
Manchester - born Garry had his best season for some time scoring 13 goals. He is a strong running attacker who has the ability to put pressure on defenders.

PETER REID — midfield
Another young player who came to the fore last year. Peter was discovered playing for Huyton schoolboys and graduated through the junior sides to win a regular place in the first team. Reads the game well and is a fine passer of the ball.

PETER THOMPSON — winger
Peter is the former Liverpool and England winger who has won most of the honours in the game. A very tricky player, he is another player who is a firm favourite with the supporters.

MIKE WALSH — defender
Mike is Manchester-born and joined the club from school. He has yet to win a regular place in the side but is equally at home either in midfield or at full back.

BRIAN SMITH — midfield
Born at Walkden, near Manchester, Brian is a hard working player who is on the verge of gaining a place in the side. Made a handful of appearances last season.

HUGH CURRAN — striker
Scottish international who missed most of last season because of a series of knee operations. He regained full fitness in the last month of the season and is looking forward to making his mark in the new season.

ALAN WALDRON — mid-field
Alan was unable to earn a regular place in the side last season. Speedy, skilful player, he spent the summer in America where he played for Chicago Stings.

Players on the Bolton team picture featured on Page One are left to right: Front row—Stuart Lee, Peter Thompson, John Ritson, Peter Reid, Tony Dunne. Middle row—Paul Jones, John Byrom, Samuel Allardyce, Peter Nicholson, Hugh Curran. Back row—Alan Waldron, Neil Whatmore, Barry Siddall, Garry Jones, Roy Greaves.



Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds

Bill — he's tops

LIFE president of Notts. County Supporters' Club, life vice-president of the Centenary Association, these are appointments which are well merited by Bill Reynolds.

Anyone who has travelled away with Notts. Supporters' Club since the war knows with affection this chap. He was transport secretary from 1946 until three seasons ago when ill health intervened.

Those of us connected with away travel who sweat over an extra coach or train must have marvelled when Bill moved "armies" in the Lawton days.

On one famous occasion, no less than 50 coaches left Nottingham for Swindon for a cup match. They were lined the length of London Road and Meadow Lane, all organised by Bill.

He was also secretary of the then Hyson Green branch whose membership alone outnumbered the present full membership. Incidentally the figure for all members in the early fifties was over 7,000.

Anyone running a social event or dance for County could, and can, call on Bill and his good lady to sell raffle tickets or man a tombola stall.

Also you see Bill who styles himself "Fifty years a County fan" still goes on — when health permits — working for Notts. (Mrs. Reynolds can be found serving in the tea bars and Bill's most recent task was helping to paint seats in the stand during the close season.

Thankyou Bill, mere words cannot convey our appreciation.

"RUNNING BEAR"

POINT OF CONTROVERSY

By Geoff Allman



LITERALLY before the season had opened newspaper and media reports have found more newsworthy material in acts of crowd violence than in actual proceedings on the field of play.

Not that one blames reporters of such events. They are merely doing a job of work and, sad to relate, there has over the past few years often been more action off the field than on it.

Many scribes and pundits have over the years offered theories as to the causes of mindless violence at soccer matches and about the only point of agreement has been that the problem is not merely a soccer one.



It is bound up with the evolution of society and connected to some extent with the reduction in working hours and financial independence of so many teenagers. All of which says exactly nothing about how soccer is going to halt the trend away from soccer watching on the part of many potential fans.

Not only are former spectators staying away because of fears for their own safety, but even those brave enough still to go on no account taking their children or allowing the latter to go unescorted.

This can soon create a dreadful 1984 image of grounds containing nothing but teenage hooligans, ex-teenage hooligans and children of ex-teenage hooligans.



Certainly when the route to a football ground is littered with teenagers shouting, fighting and kicking if not actually destroying, and entrances to grounds reveal policemen and police dogs looking for outbreaks of trouble (somehow teenagers and police do not often seem to be in the same place) only the dedicated soccer addict will continue to journey to see his local team.

Certainly few new converts to soccer watching will be made in these circumstances.

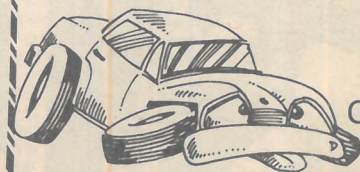
Many have blamed the actions of players on the field for crowd trouble, but experience suggests otherwise. The violence begins often in the town on the morning of the match or on the ground before the kick-off. What seems far more likely is that the mindlessness of so-called fans on the terraces may affect the players on the field with the result that the 'kick anything that moves' kind of defender may receive more encouragement than the practitioners of soccer's finer arts.



Where then will it all end? We have evidence ourselves that a winning team playing attractive soccer will attract spectators in any event. In fact there is some evidence to suggest (and Manchester United last season were a case in point) that the better a team fares on the field the less trouble there is off it.

It is, however, a fact of life that not every team can be doing well at the same time. One is left there to speculate whether enough police and vigilantes can ever be mustered to convince hooligans that their antics inevitably put them behind bars at least for a weekend or whether professional soccer will have to die in its present form from lack of support and eventually re-emerge as a mainly amateur game. This may sound like an extreme view, but except for an evangelical revival to the extent of that in the eighteenth century how else can it all end?

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A. Waite, of Hucknall who won £300 and A. Robinson, of Bulwell; M. Goulder, of Mapperley Park and A. L. Truswell, of Radford, who each won £250.

Become a County 75 agent now and perhaps share in the prizes to be won. At any rate, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you're doing an important job for YOUR club.

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IN DEPTH - COLIN ADDISON

He's back in town — in a new role

OUR story begins 36 years ago when Colin Addison was born in Taunton, Devon. When still very young the family home was moved to York and here it was that Colin went to school.

He attended the Danesmead School and whilst there his football ability began to develop. For two seasons he was selected as captain of York City Boys and then, as a 17-year-old, was invited for trials and ultimately signed as a professional, for York City. (He was signed by ex-Charlton 'keeper Sam Bartram, the City's manager).

Colin made his League debut for York in his very first season and went on to spend three and a half happy years there. He was then transferred to Nottingham Forest for a fee of £12,000 which was then a record for York City. (Forest manager at that time was Andy Beattie who was to play a further part in Colin's career as you will read later).

Colin Addison spent five successful years with the then First Division Forest. He was their leading scorer three times in this period. It was during his spell in Nottingham that Colin first met and later married his wife Jean.

They now have two daughters, Rachel aged seven and Lisa aged four.

In September 1966 Forest received and accepted an offer of around £50,000 for Colin's services from Bertie Mee's Arsenal. Although his time at Arsenal was happy enough and he was well looked after by the London Club, Colin was plagued by minor injuries and never really settled in the senior side.

And so just 15 months later, for a fee of £40,000, he was again on the move, this time to Sheffield United where manager John Harris's assistant was Andy Beattie, who remember had earlier signed Colin for Nottingham Forest. (After four years at Sheffield, and at the end of the season that saw them promoted to Division One, Colin Addison made his biggest career decision to date. A decision that proved correct and led to many happy days.

He was approached by Hereford United, then in the Southern League, and offered the position of player/manager. After considerable thought Colin, then still only 31, accepted.

OUR IN DEPTH FEATURE THIS ISSUE TURNS THE SPOTLIGHT ON COACH COLIN ADDISON. COLIN HAS AGREED TO WRITE FOR MAGPIE AND HIS FIRST ARTICLE WILL APPEAR IN OUR NEXT EDITION.

So began a tremendous success story. In his first season as manager, Colin led Hereford to their best ever run in the F.A. Cup, (who, of those of us old enough to recall, will ever forget the scenes shown on television as "little" United defeated the might of Newcastle United with Malcolm McDonald and all, in the Third Round), when they finally went out to West Ham United after a replay; to the highest number of points recorded by a Southern League side without them actually winning the championship; and to the big prize, a place in the Football League Division Four.

Colin was also awarded the Bell's Whisky Award as a manager, probably the first time

such an award has been made outside of the Football League.

Onto Hereford's first season as a League Club. Under Colin's leadership United went straight from Four to the Third Division finishing as runners-up.

Coincidental in the following season was the fact that Hereford United were again drawn against West Ham United in the Cup but this time reversed the earlier result, putting the Hamsters out of the competition after a replay.

Progressing to June 1974 when Colin Addison and Hereford United parted company after the most successful years in the club's history. Colin moved as manager to South African side Durban City.



Although Colin liked the country he developed a yearning for a return to England and when Ron Fenton, on his appointment as Manager of Notts County, asked Colin to be his right hand man, he was very happy to accept. So his career almost turned full circle, from Nottingham player to

Nottingham coach. Only the clubs are different.

Again the "Addison touch" seems to be working - at the end of his first season at Meadow Lane, "his" side—the Reserves—won the North Midlands League Cup.

Let's hope that the run continues.

NOTTS COUNTY MIDLAND INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE FIXTURES 1976/1977

THE Club has re-entered this competition after an absence of a few years. The reason is two-fold.

Firstly, because the games are played on a Saturday, it gives us a better opportunity to field a more stabilised and competitive team than in the Midland Youth League.

The latter was a mid-week competition and we found great difficulty at times getting boys off work for mid-week, afternoon away games.

Secondly, because our reserves play in the mid-week North Midlands League, a number of our players not on first team duty found themselves without a game at all on a Saturday.

The Midland Intermediate League is an open age competition (the Youth League was confined to players aged 18 or under) and this means greater scope for trialists over school age, plus the fact that the more senior of the junior members of the playing staff (if you follow this!) can play; their experience will be a boon to the apprentices and trialists.

We hope that keen County fans will attend some of the games and see our future prospects on view and lend their vocal support

Footnote; Brighton dropped out of the League after the appointment of Mr. Alan Mullery as their Manager, hence the gap in the fixtures.

Date		Opponents	Venue
Sat 21st	Aug.	Bristol City	Bristol
Sat 28th	Aug.	Stoke City	M/Lane
Sat 4th	Sept.	W.B.A.	West Bromich
Sat 11th	Sept.	Port Vale	M/Lane
Sat 18th	Sept.	Wolverhampton	Wolverhampton
Sat 25th	Sept.	Aston Villa	M/Lane
Sat 2nd	Oct.	Stoke City	Stoke
Sat 9th	Oct.	Wolverhampton W.	M/Lane
Sat 16th	Oct.	Nottingham Forest	Nottingham
Sat 23rd	Oct.	Mansfield Town	M/Lane
Sat 30th	Oct.	Shrewsbury Town	Shrewsbury
Sat 6th	Nov.	Shrewsbury Town	M/Lane
Sat 13th	Nov.		
Sat 20th	Nov.		
Sat 27th	Nov.	Port Vale	Stoke
Sat 4th	Dec.	Derby County	M/Lane
Sat 11th	Dec.	Aston Villa	Birmingham
Sat 18th	Dec.	Nottingham Forest	M/Lane
Sat 1st	Jan.	Mansfield Town	Mansfield
Sat 8th	Jan.	W.B.A.	M/Lane
Sat 15th	Jan.	Derby County	Derby
Sat 22nd	Jan.	Bristol City	M/Lane

Note; Home League fixtures will normally be played at 11.00 a.m. at Meadow Lane. But anyone interested would be well advised to check beforehand just in case there is any change nearer each fixture date.

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MAG ACT

Our first point of the season
with Chelsea at Stamford
pictures tell some of the story

Scanlon goes past Chelsea keeper Bonetti only for the ball to run off the pitch.



The Chelsea keeper thumps the ball

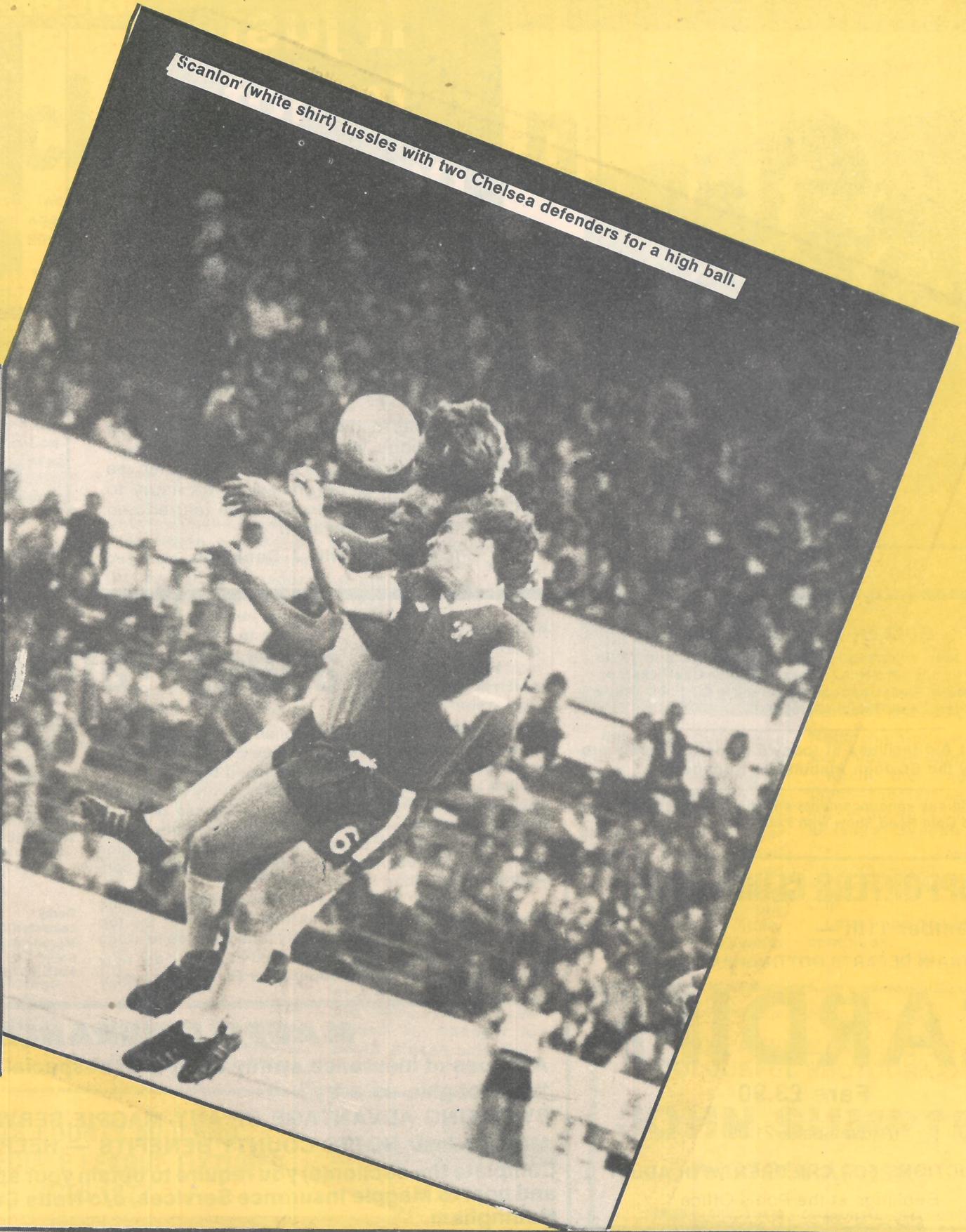


Scanlon shoots as Probert looks on.

PIE ON

me in a fine 1-1 draw
e. JOHN SUMPTER'S

from Notts. substitute Benjamin.



Scanlon (white shirt) tussles with two Chelsea defenders for a high ball.



The Chelsea defence can only watch as Probert (white shirt) thumps the ball into the corner of the net.



It just is not possible!

THE expressions tell it all. Les Bradd (left) and Ian Scanlon, both have looks of disbelief that the ball just would not go in the net in our last home game against Millwall.

Although Les did eventually score it was not enough, and after having most of the play we finally lost our opening game of the season for the first time for some years.

This game was followed by a great performance at Stamford Bridge where Chelsea managed to "pinch a point" from us late in the game when we were virtually down to ten men after an injury to Scanlon. Les Bradd had already been injured and substituted by Tristan Benjamin.

Pictures by Karlis J. Dankbars



GOLDEN GIRLS REQUIRED

Young lady supporters — help yourselves and Notts County by assisting with the sale of Golden Goal tickets on match days. Please apply immediately to the Pools Office at Meadow Lane. Telephone 864718.

First Aid facilities at today's game are kindly provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Public Address announcements and disco at today's game by The Solid Gold Road Show with Paul Davis.

All about attendances

THE Daily Express recently published a chart showing the attendances at Midlands League clubs over the past seven years, part of this is reproduced below.

It is interesting to note that Notts County were one of only 29 clubs to actually show an increase in attendances last season against 1974/75. On the other hand it is a little depressing to see that in our last promotion year, 1971/72 season, our average attendance was considerably more than last seasons.

For, although promotion was not achieved last time we did have lengthy spells in, one or other of the top three places. For all Notts County fans it is nice to study the tables and reflect on the fact that our gates are now comparable with our neighbours; for Forest however it

must be sad to note the way that their attendances have levelled out over the past seven years.

Over at Derby, the County cannot be too pleased as, despite their continued successes, they have "lost" support over the period of the table. Mansfield Town, through their promotion last season, have apparently won back their support of a few years back.

Seven year attendances:

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76
Derby	35,924	30,878	33,086	29,766	27,788	26,718	28,358
Leicester	25,104	25,869	28,536	22,706	24,825	23,765	22,049
Mansfield	7,142	6,969	5,988	5,010	3,160	7,203	7,344
Nottm Forest	25,407	19,040	21,263	9,995	14,407	12,999	12,805
Notts County	5,779	10,609	13,941	10,701	11,897	10,927	12,414

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Contents £	

OTHER (tick as required)

Valuables All Risks	Accident
Life	Sportsmans
Pensions	

RENEWAL DATE

The renewal dates for my present policies are
(A) Motor Insurance
(B) Home Insurance
(C) Other Insurances

1976
1976
1976



NEWS ON TWO

Geoff Allman



SO evenly balanced are teams this season that by last Saturday only Rotherham from Division Three and Stockport from Division Four had hundred per cent records. In fact, in the top two divisions only Chelsea have even as many as five points.

We are the only club to take a point from them so far and with such a vast overdraft to clear they must have considerable satisfaction from the way their young home-grown players are coming along. One of these **STEVE FINNISTON** on Saturday got the winner for the second week running.

★ ★ ★

Another team in deep financial trouble, Luton Town, also brought their fans something to cheer on Saturday with a 2-1 win at Burnley, just down from Division One, on a ground at which they had lost on each of their last four visits. **DIXIE DEANS** the new striker from Celtic, netted his third goal in as many games on Saturday.

★ ★ ★

Another striker who could be among the leading scorers in Division Two this season is Blackpool's **MICK WALSH**, who got two of his side's three goals against Orient on Saturday and is all out to beat the tally of 17 that he netted in 1975/6, his first season in League football.

Whilst 'Pool have scored seven goals so far this season, Orient share with Brentford and Newport in Division Four the doubtful distinction of being the only Football League sides without a goal to date. They could be struggling to hold on to their place this season, and though they took Chelsea to a League Cup replay, the acquisition of **DEREK CLARKE** from Oxford has not yet made any tangible difference in front of goal.

Another striker on the mark recently has been Plymouth's **PAUL MARINER** with a goal in each of his three league games to date, but the one he got on Saturday didn't stop us recording our third successive win there. In fact we have now won four and drawn four of our last eight games at Home Park and have not lost there since a 4-0 defeat in 1934/5.

MICK VINTER who got the winner on Saturday, was also on the mark there last season.

★ ★ ★

What a shock for our neighbours Nottingham Forest on Saturday, when after drawing their first two games looked a fair bet for at least a point from the visit of Wolves, who also had two draws to their credit. **STEVE DALEY** achieved the doubtful distinction of being the first player in Division Two this season to score for both sides and also had his name taken. But this was a good all-round performance from Wolves, who exactly repeated their 3-1 win on their last visit to the City ground in 1971/2. **BOBBY GOULD** got both Wolves other goals to bring his League tally to 127.

★ ★ ★

A few days earlier Wolves had drawn at Sheffield United, where on Saturday Hereford also achieved a point on their first ever visit there. A win and a draw in their first two games in Division Two is not a bad start for their introduction to this division. **ROY CARTER**, only an occasional scorer in Division Three last season, got the equaliser on Saturday after **CHRIS GUTHRIE** (for so many years in the Third Division with Southend) had given United a first-minute lead.

One of the real evergreens, Charlton's **KEITH PEACOCK**, got his side's equaliser on Saturday to open his scoring account at the beginning of his 15th season in League football after **KEITH BULLIVANT** had got his first-ever League goal for Fulham.

Another newcomer to League football, Bolton's **STEVE TAYLOR**, who scored twice while on loan to Port Vale last season, opened his Bolton account in fine style last week with a goal against Orient in midweek and two more against Millwall three days later.

★ ★ ★

Struggling last season they may have been, but Hull City seem to have put all that behind them in the present campaign with two wins and seven goals in the space of four days. Their four goals against Southampton on Saturday was their highest score for nearly a year, and it inflicted on Saints their heaviest defeat since going down 4-0 at Millwall in October 1974.

A change of club certainly seems to have been a good thing for **DAVID SUNLEY**, who couldn't hold down a regular place with Sheffield Wednesday last season, but who has scored in both Hull's last two games.

Many will inevitably be disappointed, but the hopes of three will ultimately be fulfilled. Inevitably the three clubs just down from Division One will be hoping that they can emulate the example of Manchester United and Norwich, who two seasons ago jumped straight back up and stayed up apparently much the better for their Second Division experience.

Magpie golfers

The Notts. County Centenary Association have challenged the players to a game of golf.

This challenge has been accepted and the match will take place on Mapperley Park golf course on Wednesday September 15, starting at 1.30 p.m.

The players who have agreed to take part are: Eric McManus, Pedro Richards, Eric Probert, David Needham, Brian Stubbs, Arthur Mann, David McVay, David Smith, Les Bradd (if fit), Mick Vinter and Steve Carter.

Supporters are welcome to come along and a report will appear in the MAGPIE following the match.

Challenge match winners

The challenge match between Notts. County Reserves (North Midland League Cup winners last season) and Middlesbrough Reserves (League champions) ended in a 1-0 win for the Magpies. The winning goal came from the penalty spot and was scored by Lloyd Richards.

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BALL BOYS

Acting as ball boys at
today's game are pupils of
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School.

We give thanks to them
and their teachers who
accompany them today,
Mr. M. Hutchinson —
Sports Master and Mr. F.
Knowles — Deputy Head-
master.

The boy's names are:
Mark Caines, Adam Cre-
vald, Ian Moore, Richard
Newton, Nigel Northern,
Peter Orchard, Nicholas
Ryley, Jeffrey Shepherd,
Paul Stables.

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Tuesday 5th, October, 1976

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Entrants will appear in a choice of their own, Day Wear or Evening Dress, be interviewd briefly, and will be judged by a panel of local celebrities, in a similar style to 'Miss World' contests.

The winner will hold the title for one year and will be asked to attend official functions connected with the Supporters Club.

PRIZES

1st Prize £50.00 Cash
2nd Prize £15.00 Cash
3rd Prize £10.00 Cash

Plus many other prizes.
All accepted entrants, will
receive a prize.

RULES

- 1 Contestants must be over 16 years of age.
- 2 Past winners of the contest are ineligible for entry.
- 3 The winning contestant must be prepared to sign an undertaking to attend a minimum of Six Notts County F.C. functions, if so requested
- 4 If necessary contestants will be required to take part in an elimination contest to reduce the number of entries to a maximum of 15 for the contest itself.
- 5 In the case of any disputes the decision of the organising committee is final.

If further details are required please contact Peter Dennis on Nottm. 269550

ENTRY FORM

Please complete this form and send it to the Social Secretary, Notts County F.C. Supporters Club, Meadow Lane Ground, Nottingham, NG2 6AG or hand it in at any Supporters' Club hut around the ground. Envelopes to be marked 'Miss Notts County' Closing Date Tuesday 28th September 1976

I wish to enter the 'Miss Notts County' Personality Girl Contest.

Name. Miss/Mrs.

Address

Telephone Number

Age..... Vital Statistics.....

Occupation

Interests/Pastimes

Past Beauty Contest Experience

I agree to abide by the rules of the contest (Signature)

If you do not wish to deface your copy of Magpie by cutting out the above form. Entry forms available from the Pools Office at Meadow Lane

In off the post

Write to: Editor, Magpie, Notts. County Football Club, Meadow Lane, Nottingham.

WHERE WERE THOSE FANS!

IT was of course very disappointing to lose our opening game of the season but what disgusted me was the size of the gate.

Surely a team which got so close to promotion last season deserved more than the paltry 8,000 or so who turned up to see the lads play against Millwall.

How can we expect the club to invest in new players on attendances like this?

All right, so the opposition was not too attractive but this was the opening day of the season when interest should be running at its highest.

I should like to make a plea to all you Notts. supporters. Come and see the team. If you don't, the question to be asked is: "Can we support Second Division football, let alone think about promotion to Division I."

RISE PARK MAGPIE.

A visit to the lane

ON May 26, I and my grandson Steven Pepper, from Adelaide, South Australia, paid a visit to Notts. County's Meadow Lane ground, where we were warmly welcomed by manager, Ron Fenton.

It was really a wonderful occasion for young Steven, who had wanted to see what a Football League ground, was like. So Notts. County, the oldest football club in the world, was the first he saw, and the man who showed him round was the enthusiastic Ron Fenton.

We met that wonderful man Jack Wheeler, as busy as ever, at his many duties. A thousand not-out and he can still smile! Wanted to know how I find time to write all the letters I do.

Maybe it's when I meet such genuinely dedicated

men, such as he, who can smile amidst the hurly-burly of running the training department of a League soccer club, and motivate the men in his charge to produce the "goods", on match days.

Then Ron Fenton, who almost steered County to the glory of promotion, after only a few months in charge, dismissed my, "If only..." with, "It's all part of the game", and "We must get it right next time."

Ron was the only football club manager my young grandson met in his six weeks holiday here, for when we called at the City ground, Ken Smales explained that Brian Clough was away.

So having now seen both Nottingham's senior grounds, Steven will

remember his visits when either team appear on their T.V., as they do once in a while in, "Big Match".

A brand new football season opens invitingly for us, and the local "derbys" will provide the spice to make it all the more tasty. Can Ron Fenton and his charges, "get it right this time"? Will County, so long in the shadows of their rivals over the river, pull it off, and gain the Division 1 place, Forest lost in 1972?

Such speculations could well be in the minds of County supporters, at this, the outset of a new season. As a Forest fan, with strong County leanings, I send best wishes to all at Meadow Lane; may you have a truly wonderful season!

HARRY DUROSE
Newthorpe

Bradd's goals listed

WHEN Les Bradd scored his 100th League goal against Fulham last season, I thought it may be interesting to list them all from his very first in October 1967 right up to date. The completed list is shown below, but one or two interesting facts emerged in the process of compiling it.

For instance, 59 of the goals have come at Meadow Lane, including his quickest and his latest, both against York City. The quickest came in the second minute of the game in March 1968 and the latest in the 86th minute of the game here

last season in which he came on as substitute and scored the equaliser, paving the way for Dave Needham's last minute winner.

Les has scored his goals consistently through three levels of soccer with 39 in the Fourth Division, 30 in the Third and 31 up to and including that 100th in Division Two. During this time a total of 51 other teams have been on the receiving end of at least one of his goals with Southend United having been 'hit' no less than nine times.

Since joining the Magpies, Les has been the club's top goalscorer twice. The first time was in his first season here, 1967/68, when he notched 10 and again in season 1971/72 with a commendable 21.

Finally, I hope that these facts and figures will be of interest to other "MAGPIE" readers and I look forward to being able to compile a list of the next 100 goals. Well Done Les!

MICHAEL PEATE

285, Wigman Road,
Bilborough, Nottm.
NG8 4AJ.

100 LES BRADD GOALS

Season 67/68. Division Four

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
21/10/67	H	Rochdale	2-0	1
4/11/67	H	Newport C.	3-1	1
16/12/67	A	Chester	3-1	2
3/ 2/68	H	Workington	2-1	2
23/ 3/68	H	York City	1-1	1
22/ 4/68	A	Southend U.	1-0	1
4/ 5/68	H	Southend U.	4-3	2

Season 68/69. Division Four

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
17/ 8/68	H	Southend U.	2-2	2
28/ 8/68	H	Halifax T.	1-2	1
7/ 9/68	H	Newport C.	3-1	1
28/ 9/68	A	Wrexham	2-3	1
5/10/68	A	Chesterfield	2-0	1
8/10/68	A	Halifax T.	1-3	1
9/11/68	H	Chester	3-2	1
21/12/68	H	Exeter C.	3-1	2

Season 69/70. Division Four

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
25/10/69	A	Bradford P. A.	3-1	1
17/ 1/70	H	Aldershot	3-0	1
24/ 1/70	A	Southend U.	5-2	1
11/ 3/70	H	Darlington	4-1	1
21/ 3/70	H	Hartlepool	1-0	1
30/ 3/70	H	Bradford P. A.	5-2	2
15/ 4/70	A	Lincoln C.	4-2	1

Season 70/71. Division Four.

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
5/ 9/70	H	Southend U.	2-1	1
12/ 9/70	A	Colchester U.	3-2	1
30/ 9/70	A	Hartlepool	1-2	1
3/10/70	H	Workington	2-2	1
19/12/70	A	Barrow	2-1	1
26/12/70	H	Cambridge U.	4-1	1
30/ 1/71	H	Peterborough U.	6-0	1
13/ 2/71	H	Chester	2-1	1
27/ 2/71	H	Scunthorpe U.	3-0	1
6/ 3/71	A	Oldham A.	3-1	1
28/ 4/71	A	Crewe A.	2-1	1

Season 71/72. Division Three.

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
21/ 8/71	A	Chesterfield	2-1	1
30/ 8/71	A	Port Vale	3-0	1
9/10/71	H	Plymouth A.	1-0	1
16/10/71	A	Rochdale	1-1	1
20/10/71	A	Blackburn R.	2-0	2
6/11/71	H	Mansfield T.	2-0	1
27/11/71	A	Bradford C.	3-2	1
4/12/71	H	Barnsley	3-0	1
18/12/71	H	Walsall	3-0	2
1/ 1/72	H	Brighton & H. A.	1-0	1
29/ 1/72	H	Blackburn R.	1-0	1
19/ 2/72	H	York City	2-2	1
26/ 2/72	A	Mansfield	1-1	1
11/ 3/72	A	Plymouth	1-1	1
25/ 3/72	A	Shrewsbury T.	1-1	1
3/ 4/72	H	Swansea C.	5-0	1
15/ 4/72	H	Bradford C.	2-1	1
18/ 4/72	A	Halifax T.	1-3	1
3/ 5/72	H	Torquay U.	2-1	1

Season 72/73. Division Three

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
9/ 9/72	A	Southend U.	1-2	1
19/ 9/72	A	Charlton A.	1-6	1
25/10/72	H	Rotherham U.	2-0	1
23/11/72	H	Oldham A.	2-4	1
30/12/72	A	Bolton W.	2-2	1
27/ 1/73	H	Southend U.	2-0	1
3/ 3/73	H	Halifax T.	3-0	1
17/ 3/73	H	Wrexham	1-0	1
23/ 4/73	H	Scunthorpe U.	2-0	1

Season 73/74. Division Two

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
11/ 9/73	H	Luton T.	1-1	1
15/ 9/73	H	Swindon T.	2-0	1
19/ 9/73	A	Oxford U.	1-2	1
22/ 9/73	A	Portsmouth	2-1	1
29/ 9/73	H	Aston V.	2-0	1
24/11/73	H	Middlesborough	2-2	1
8/12/73	H	Orient	2-4	1
19/ 2/74	A	Swindon T.	4-1	1
16/ 3/74	A	Preston N. E.	2-0	1
27/ 4/74	H	Bristol C.	2-1	1

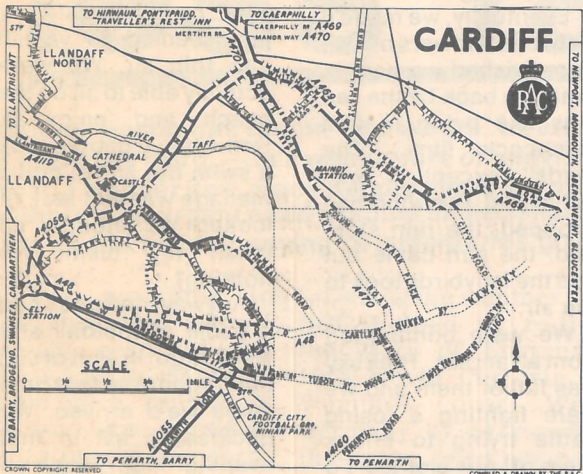
Season 74/75. Division Two

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
20/ 8/74	H	Fulham	1-1	1
31/ 8/74	A	York City	2-2	2
19/10/74	H	Oxford U.	4-1	1
28/12/74	A	N. Forest	2-0	1
1/ 3/75	H	York City	2-1	1

Season 75/76. Division Two

Date	Ven	Opponent	S	Gls
16/ 8/75	A	Charlton A.	2-1	1
30/ 8/75	A	N. Forest	1-0	1
23/ 9/75	A	Hull C.	2-0	2

AWAY WE GO



NOTTINGHAM
A52 via the Sandiacre and Borrowash by-passes to the junction with the A5111 Derby ring road. Turn left and follow ring road for 5¼ miles to the junction with the A38.....**19 miles**

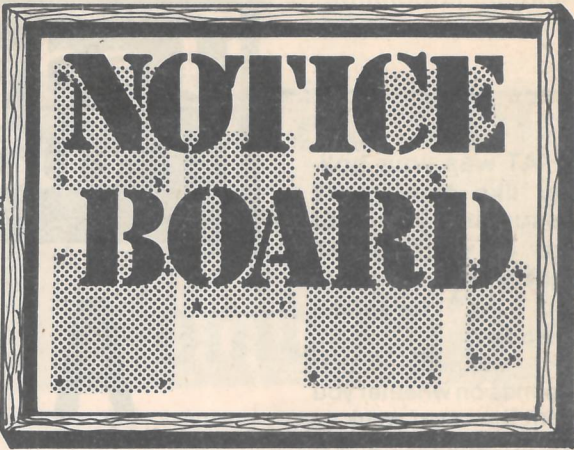
A38 by-passing Burton-upon-Trant and Lichfield to Bassetts Pole roundabout. Take 3rd road and 4¼ miles on at roundabout take 2nd road to the Gravelly Hill Interchange.....**55 miles**

Follow signs "North West" along the M6 for 5 miles to Intersection (8) The South West, M5.60 miles

M5 South for 83 miles to Intersection to Inter-Section (15) London, Bristol, South Wales, M4.143 miles

Follow signs "South Wales" along the M4 for 27 miles to Intersection (28) Cardiff, A48.**170 miles**

A48 to Cardiff entering by Newport Road (See Plan). By the Royal Infirmary turn left along Glossop Road then right along Moira Terrace. Continue via Adam Street and Bute Terrace into Penarth Road. Turn right along Sloper Road to:
CARDIFF CITY FOOTBALL GROUND.....180 miles



INFORMATION FOR SEASON 1967/1977

Ground admission charges:
Adults 80p. **Juveniles** (16 or under) 50p.
O.A.P.'s (with their book) 30p. at County Road end or 50p. at Meadow Lane only.

Seating:
£1.20, £1.40, £1.80 and £2.00

Season Tickets: (no half prices)
Seating £18, £21, £27 and £30.
Standing Adults £14. **Juveniles** (16 or under) £8. (Available for Iremonger Road, Meadow Lane or County Road entrances).

Car Park:
Iremonger Road end: Matchly 30p. Season, £8.

Kick Off Times (Home games only)
First team: Saturdays 3.00 p.m. Midweek 7.30 p.m. **Reserve team:** Midweek 7.30 p.m. **Youth team** Saturdays 11.00 a.m.

Charges for Reserve and Youth team games:
Reserves: Adults 30p. Juveniles 20p. Youth team: Adults 25p. Juveniles 15p. (Season ticket holders and O.A.P.'s admitted free to these games on production of their ticket or book).
Reserve games entrances Meadow Lane or Iremonger Road. Youth games Meadow Lane ONLY.

Telephones:
Information Service: 864152. **General Office:** 868494. **Commercial Manager:** 868177. **Pools Office and Travel Enquiries for Supporters Club:** 864718.

Club Office Hours:
Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. (open through lunch). **Saturday** (Match days) 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. **Saturday** (non match days) 9 a.m. until noon. (Inclusive Youth match days).

COUNTY FANS . . . Cut this out and save it.

North Midlands League

FIXTURES IN LEAGUE AND CUP — 1976/77

Mon. 23rd Aug.	Middlesbrough (Annual Champions v Cup Winners match)	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 31st Aug.	Mansfield Town (cup)★	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 7th Sept.	Chesterfield (cup)★	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 21st Sept.	Mansfield Town (cup)★	H 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 29th Sept.	Chesterfield (cup)★	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 5th Oct.	Rotherham United	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 12th Oct.	Halifax Town	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 19th Oct.	Barnsley	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 2nd Nov.	Hull City	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 9th Nov.	Doncaster Rovers	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 16th Nov.	Grimsby Town	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 23rd Nov.	Mansfield Town	H 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 1st Dec.	Chesterfield	A 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 7th Dec.	Middlesbrough	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 14th Dec.	Sunderland	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 21st Dec.	Rotherham United	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 11th Jan.	Halifax Town	H 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 19th Jan.	Barnsley	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 25th Jan.	Hull City	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 8th Feb.	Doncaster Rovers	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 15th Feb.	Grimsby Town	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 22nd Feb.	Mansfield Town	A 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 1st Mar.	York City	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 8th Mar.	Chesterfield	H 7.30 p.m.
Tue. 15th Mar.	Middlesbrough	A 7.30 p.m.
Mon. 21st Mar.	Sunderland	A 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 30th Mar.	York City	A 7.30 p.m.

★ Cup competition this season is on a Zoned basis, the Zones are as follows:

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4
Sunderland York Middlesbrough	Barnsley Halifax Rotherham	Doncaster Hull Grimsby	Chesterfield Mansfield Notts County

Fixtures, dates and K.O. times are subject to slight alteration in this League but we will always endeavour to keep all those interested informed.

With only 12 clubs in membership of the North Midlands League this season (Scunthorpe United dropping out) the Management Committee decided to change slightly the format of the League and Cup Competition in 1976/77.

They have divided the League up into zones and the season will begin with a Cup competition based on small league tables. We are placed in the group which contains Chesterfield and Mansfield whom we play home and away.

At the end of the four games for each of the groupings, the top one goes forward into the semi-final. The draw for this will be made later.

As before the home games for us will be on a Tuesday evening at Meadow Lane at 7.30 p.m. Attendances in 1975/76 were excellent . . . well over 1,500 average each game . . . we hope for similar support this time in what promises to be another exciting season.

FOOTNOTE: Many fans take us to task for the lack of publicity to up to date League tables. . . but it ain't our fault! These are issued by the League very infrequently but we have had a promise from the Management Committee this season they will try to get one to us at least fortnightly.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE 1975/76

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Middlesbrough	24	20	3	1	56	11	41
Sunderland	24	17	3	4	55	19	38
York City	24	14	3	7	63	33	35
Notts County	24	13	9	2	55	30	28
Hull City	24	11	7	6	48	34	28
Mansfield Town	24	9	10	5	29	37	23
Grimsby Town	24	8	10	6	32	40	22
Chesterfield	24	7	11	6	30	38	20
Rotherham United	24	6	13	5	37	51	17
Barnsley	24	4	12	8	33	60	16
Doncaster Rovers	24	5	14	5	25	48	15
Scunthorpe United	24	5	14	5	27	63	15
Halifax Town	24	3	13	8	25	48	14

League Cup Winners: Notts County F.C.

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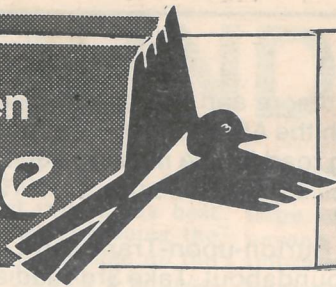
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A LOT MORE THAN MONEY
AT THE SIGN OF THE BLACK HORSE

Lady Helen
Magpie



A HOLIDAY TO REMEMBER

WHAT was your holiday like this year? (assuming you had one of course). All right was it, or have you forgotten already?

I suppose that depends on whether you spent the usual week or two at "Skeggy" and it was the same any other year, or whether, for a change (and if you could afford it!) you decided to go abroad.

BORROWED

Me? Well I managed to fit in a week at Mablethorpe just before Notts' first match against Forest in the Anglo Scottish Cup. My aunt and uncle recently bought a bungalow there for their future retirement, so we borrowed it for a week.

SUNDAY — Things didn't start off very well. We had the usual prob-

lems with a certain bus company, which will remain nameless, but if you have travelled with them you will probably know what I mean.

We were assured by the people in the Information Office (as was everyone else in the queue behind us) that the coach would be leaving from Platform 5, but also like everyone else in the queue, we had to make a mad dash to Platform 12 when the coach marked "Mablethorpe" decided to pull in there instead. (It must have looked more like a stampede, because we all wanted to be first on to get a good seat).

Of course it wasn't the driver's fault; he knew "nowt about it" did he!

PROBLEM

Then we had the problem of how to get six

people into three seats, which meant another bus had to be brought out. Well it was either that or half of us running behind! (Yes I know it would have been cheaper that way). Anyway, somehow or other we managed to reach our destination in just under three hours and that's including a stop for a "cuppa tea."

After unpacking and having a meal, we watched the Olympic football final on the tele' (can't get away from it can we!) and spent the rest of the day just lounging around.

MONDAY — Isn't it funny when you're on holiday, you always seem to wake up early, but when you have to get up for work, you could sleep for hours.

Breakfast was eaten, pots washed and I'd fetched a paper by nine

o'clock, so we went for a walk to the beach. It was a bit windy, but we managed to find some shelter in the sand dunes.

However, we soon had to move. For one thing, it wasn't really sun bathing weather and for another, we were spending most of the time swatting ladybirds, which wasn't much fun. (I expect you heard about the East Coast Plague!).

WEIGHT!

By the end of the day, I knew this was going to be a week I would regret when I got home, because I could feel myself putting on weight already. Well hot dogs, ice creams and fish and chips aren't exactly slimming are they? Oh well...

TUESDAY — What a day this was! We decided after breakfast we would take a bus ride into Sutton and then walk back along the sea front. Well the weather

man must have been waiting for us, because just as we'd opened the door to venture out, the heavens opened too and down came the rain... coats off again!

Eventually, we made it between showers but we soon wished we hadn't. Walking back by the sea was like being in that Hitchcock film, "The Birds" except it was ladybirds! The wind had dropped, the rain stopped, the sun came out and the ladybirds took to the air.

We were bombarded from all angles. They sky was full of them and we were fighting a losing battle trying to knock them off our clothes. I'd never seen anything like it! We were glad to get back indoors.

CROSSWORDS

By tea time that day, we had already finished one jigsaw and numerous crosswords because if the bad weather didn't keep us in, the ladybirds did! However, Tuesday was the only day we had any rain so it wasn't too bad.

WEDNESDAY

Although the sun shone, it still hadn't warmed up enough to take a dip in the sea (perhaps I'm "nesh") so we decided to have a go on the Arnold Palmer Putting Green. Dad won by two strokes, so he was treated to an ice cream; (with a chocolate flake and a couple of ladybirds thrown in for good measure!) mind

you, we did have an enjoyable meal of steak and chips that evening as well.

By **THURSDAY**, the weather had improved a bit more and guess what, no ladybirds! They just seemed to vanish into thin air. We were actually able to sit on the beach and enjoy it. Some brave people took a swim but all we could manage was wet feet. (It looked as though I'd taken my bikini for nothing).

Anyway, dad and I had a game of football and we also got in a bit of sun bathing for the first time since we'd arrived. We decided to eat in that evening. Mum made an apple and blackberry pie for afters with some blackberries she had been collecting all week from a nearby wild bush... and very nice it was too.

LAST DAY

FRIDAY, the last full day of our holiday, was spent doing the thing most people seem to do on their last day. Yes, I mean the present hunting. The shops were full. It's the same at Christmas isn't it, if you buy something for so-and-so.

Then you've got to give what's-her-name a present as well. Luckily, I still managed to return to Nottingham with enough money in my pocket, and in time to get to Meadow Lane to see the Anglo Scottish Cup game against Forest.

"MISS NOTTS
COUNTY"

DANCE

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SHERWOOD
ROOMS

Tuesday 5th
October 1976

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OF JUDGES

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What a start to the season

We had not lost our first match of the season for seven years and on paper it looked as though we should increase that total, but it wasn't to be was it?

Our lads seemed to do everything right until it came to the vital moment. That ball would just not go into the net. It was a similar story against Forest in the Anglo-Scottish Cup game, but things were made worse by the fact that Millwall scored twice when we were doing all the work.

Consequently, I left Meadow Lane feeling annoyed, fed-up and ready to jump at the first person who said anything to me that evening, even if it was nice! (Does it get you like that as well?)

However, things didn't seem so bad when I checked through the other results of the day. It seemed we weren't the only team to get off to a bad start. Bristol City unexpectedly won at Arsenal, Birmingham drew at Old Trafford, Carlisle won at Southampton... and only three home wins in the Second Division.

Then, after watching Match of the Day that evening and seeing West Brom's fine 2-2 draw against the mighty Leeds United and Everton's 4-0 win at Q.P.R. with only ten men for most of the game, I felt even better.

Sunday papers were claiming several teams were short of goal scoring power. Well as it is often said, football's a funny game and there's still a long way to go yet isn't there?

Miss Notts County

Well Done Sue, Good Luck...?
Who's it going to be this year?

Yes, the time has come round again to elect a new "Miss Notts County". Susan Sims did an admirable job last year, taking part in various functions during the season ranging from our extra special Penalty Competition last Christmas, (remember that?) to

prizes at social functions like the Player of the Year Dance.

Can you carry on where Sue left off? If you think you can, then we want to hear from you. Who knows, you might be the lucky one!

Tuesday, October 5 is the date for your diary then — make a note of it now! Look out for more details in the next Magpie v Blackpool.

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Fine Ales

MERRY MERRY
MONTH OF MAY...

May is a special sort of month at Meadow Lane, birthdays being celebrated by Lynne Fitzpatrick (Pools Office) on the 7th, players David Needham and Ray O'Brien, both on the 21st, Stuart Borgan (commercial manager) on the 22nd, and Mick Vinter on the 23rd.

Obituary

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Caunt of Newark, a supporter together with her husband for more than 50 years.

Mrs. Caunt died a few days before the start of the season and we extend our deepest sympathy to her husband and family.

Magpie Machinists

We usually have vacancies for Skilled Experienced Overlockers, Lockstitchers, Ironers and Examiners at:

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s—substitute
★—1 goal

Date	Fixture	Ground	Attendance	Result	Accum. Points	League Pos.	McManus	Richards	O'Brien	Probert	Needham	Stubbs	Carter	McVay	Bradd	Mann	Scanlon	Sims	Benjamin	Smith	Vinter	Lane	Own Goal
Aug. 7 S	FOREST (AS Cup)	H	11,258	0-0	—	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11s	12					
10 T	Bristol C (AS Cup)	A	3,272	0-2	—	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9s	10	11	7★	12	8	9	12	
14 S	WBA (AS Cup)		6,396	1-3	—	N/A	1	2	3	4	5s	6		10			11		12			12	
21 S	MILLWALL	H	8,649	1-2		N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	9★	12	11		12	10s	8		
25 W	Chelsea	A	17,426	1-1	1	N/A	1	2	3	4★	5			7	9s	6	11		10	10	8		
28 S	Plymouth Argyle	A	14,539	2-1	3	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6		7		11		9	12	10	8★		
31 T	Scunthorpe (LC2)	A	6,208	2-0	—	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6	12	7★					9s	10	8		
Sept. 4 S	BOLTON WANDERERS	H																					
11 S	Cardiff City	A																					
18 S	BLACKPOOL	H																					
22 W	League Cup, 3rd Rd.																						
25 S	Bristol Rovers	A																					
Oct. 2 S	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H																					
9 S	Blackburn Rovers	A																					
16 S	ORIENT	H																					
23 S	Hereford United	A																					
27 W	League Cup, 4th Rd.																						
30 S	CARLISLE UNITED	H																					
Nov. 6 S	Sheffield United	A																					
13 S	WOLVES	H																					
20 S	(1) Fulham	A																					
27 S	LUTON TOWN	H																					
Dec. 1 W	League Cup, 5th Rd																						
4 S	Southampton	A																					
11 S	(2) BURNLEY	H																					
18 S	Charlton A.	A																					
27 M	HULL CITY	H																					
29 W	Nottingham Forest	A																					
Jan. 1 S	SHEFFIELD UTD	H																					
3 M	Carlisle United	A																					
8 S	F.A. Cup, 3rd Rd																						
15 S	CHELSEA	H																					
19 W	League Cup, S-F																						
22 S	Millwall	A																					
29 S	F.A. Cup, 4th Rd																						
Feb. 5 S	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H																					
12 S	Bolton Wanderers	A																					
16 W	League Cup, S-F																						
19 S	CARDIFF CITY	H																					
26 S	(5) Blackpool	A																					
Mar. 5 S	BRISTOL ROVERS	H																					
12 S	(LCF) Oldham A.	A																					
19 S	(6) BLACKBURN R.	H																					
26 S	Orient	A																					
Apr. 2 S	HEREFORD UNITED	H																					
8 F	Hull City	A																					
9 S	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	H																					
11 M	Wolves	A																					
16 S	FULHAM	H																					
23 S	(SF) Luton Town	A																					
30 S	SOUTHAMPTON	H																					
May 7 S	Burnley	A																					
14 S	CHARLTON A	H																					
21 S	F.A. Cup Final																						

Next edition of Magpie in your newsagents on Friday September 17.

“GOAL SPONSORSHIP 1976/77”

Dear Supporter,

Last season we introduced a “Goal Sponsorship” scheme to help raise funds for Notts County F.C. It proved to be an outstanding success with £600 being sponsored by Supporters. This season, with your support, we hope to do even better.

Supporters are invited to sign an undertaking to pay, at the end of the season, an amount specified by themselves for each goal scored by Notts County F.C. in all senior competitions i.e. Football League Division two, F.A. Cup and Football League Cup.

You have the opportunity to “sponsor” ALL goals scored in the above competitions and for any of the following options:-

- 1) HOME GOALS ONLY
- 2) AWAY GOALS ONLY
- 3) GOALS SCORED BY NOMINATED PLAYERS
- 4) PENALTY GOALS ONLY
- 5) OWN GOALS ONLY

The amount sponsored is entirely up to the individual sponsor, but the following example based on a typical set of statistics may be helpful.

TOTAL GOALS SCORED	60 (at 2p per Goal - £1.20)
HOME GOALS SCORED	40 (at 3p per Goal - £1.20)
AWAY GOALS SCORED	20 (at 5p per Goal - £1.00)
GOALS SCORED BY	
INDIVIDUAL PLAYER	10 (at 8p per Goal - £0.80)
PENALTY GOALS SCORED	5 (at 10p per Goal - £0.50)
OWN GOALS SPONSORED	3 (at 20p per Goal - £0.60)

It is intended that the proceeds from the “Goal Sponsorship” scheme will form a donation from the Supporters Club to Notts County Football Club. The money will be used for a specific purpose to be determined by the Supporters Club committee after consultation with officials of the Football Club.

Regular reports on the progress of this venture will appear in “Magpie”.

Payment of the amount sponsored will become due at the completion of the 1976/77 season.

If you wish to contribute towards the continued success of the “Magpies” please participate in this venture by completing the details overleaf.

Thank you for your valued support.

PETER DENNIS
Notts County F.C. Supporters Club

COMPETITION CORNER

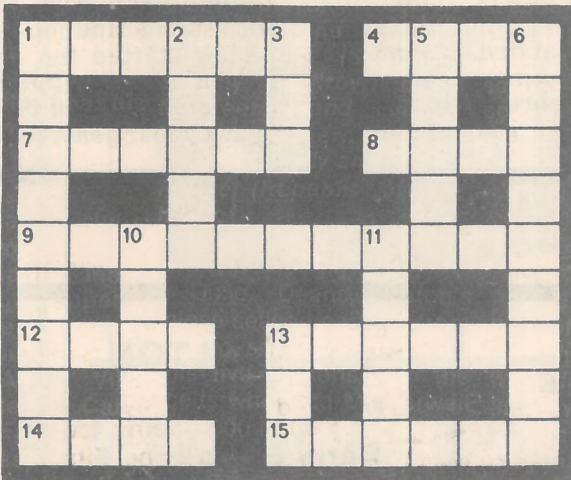
SOCCER

NINETY-NINER

Compiled by David Peck

1976/77 series. Copyright PQRS.

Complete the Crossword and post to:
Competition Corner, Magpie, c/o Notts
County Football Club, Meadow Lane,
Nottingham.



Puzzle Number Two CLUB SANDWICH

Find the name of nickname of a League soccer club that will fit between and make every column a three-lettered word.

EASATAHO
BETEEEDE

Puzzle Number Three TEAM CHANGES

Use the letters in the names of these “players” to spell two Division one sides.

ED WIDNEY
ELI FITCH
CHRIS UFTON

Puzzle Number Three LINK MEN

Many men of soccer have a word linking their first and second names, like KEEN in MIKE ENGLAND. Find a soccer name for each of the following links:

YOB, WARTS, GET

Puzzle Number Four FOUR OF A KIND

Here, in alphabetical order, are four post-war managers of one club, name the club and the true order.

TOMMY COOK
FREDDIE GOODWIN
ARCHIE MACAULAY
DON WELSH

The sender of the first all correct puzzle opened wins two seats for a future Notts County home game.

CLUES - across

- 1 Aberdeen striker (6).
- 4 Champions for Bulgaria (1, 1, 1, 1).
- 7 Scarborough hold the FA Challenge — (6)
- 8 “Big —” is a Liverpool favourite (4)
- 9 Derby Defender (5, 6)
- 12 Scottish referee (4)
- 13 Jackson and Walley were League ever-presents for them last season (6)
- 14 Norwich City's previous ground, The —, was banned by the FA (4)
- 15 & 13 down. Bradford City v Rotherham score that was Bradford's record victory and Rotherham's worst defeat (6-3).

CLUES - Down

- 1 Coventry cap (9)
- 2 Portsmouth's top scorer last season (5)
- 3 Cashley or Clarke (3)
- 5 Soccer journal (5)
- 6 Former League side now in Rothmans Northern League (9)
- 10 French club (5)
- 11 Club colours of Borussia Monchengladbach (5).
- 13 See 15 across.

Winner of the Crossword featured in the first “Magpie” of the season was Mr. R. S. Beales of 37 The Downs, Wilford, Nottingham, who collects two free seats for this afternoon's match. Solutions were:

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

(Last Week's)

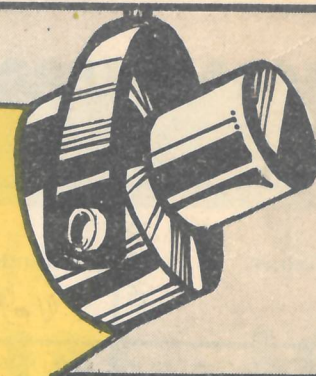
Across: 1 Mercer (Coventry); 4 Posh (Peterborough); 6 Foul; 7 Barrow; 8 Rodney Marsh; 11 Albion (Brighton); 13 Kerr; 14 Dell (So'ton); 15 Tigers (Hull).

Down: 1 McFarland (Derby); 2 Round; 3 Rob; 4 Porta; 5 Hawthorns (WBA, promoted); 9 Neill; 10 Reece; 12 Net.



BOLTON

Colin Slater's **SIDELIGHT**



IN one rather unhappy respect, Bolton Wanderers last season were in good company. Like Manchester United and Derby County, for example, they promised for so long to carry off at least one of the game's honours — and finished up by winning nothing, except sympathy. After so bitter a disappointment they have to pick themselves up again and hope for actual (as against promised) success this campaign.

People inside football, I find, vary in their assessment whether it's a good thing to get involved in cup competitions when you are bidding for league honours, or whether you should be single-minded in pursuit of one major objective. I don't know the opinion of Bolton manager Ian Greaves, but perhaps it was coloured by what happened last season.

For at a time when promotion from the Second Division seemed to be theirs for the taking — even the championship itself did not seem beyond them at one stage — they got involved in the F.A. Cup, which though lucrative may have diverted them from the main aim — that of reaching the First Division.

NECK AND NECK

At the finish, Bolton were only one place (fourth) and three points (52) ahead of Notts, another example of the way the progress of the two clubs has run neck and neck in recent seasons.

It all started in 1972-73 when they were promoted together from the Third Division, Wanderers winning the title with 61 points and Notts being runners-up on 57. The next year, their first back in the Second Division, only one point separated them at the

finish — and that was in County's favour. Come to 1974-75 and two points divided us in the final chart — and they gave Bolton the edge. Then, last season, both clubs set their sights on another promotion . . . and both missed.

While County got caught up in the heady excitement of League Cup progress Bolton stirred the soccer world, and brought greater enthusiasm back to Burnden Park than it had known for years, with a great march in the F.A. Cup. In the fifth round they were paired with those traditional Cup fighters Newcastle United, and took them to two replays before being knocked out at the Leeds ground.

The TV cameras followed them around during the Newcastle clashes, and of the nine goals produced by the three ties I best recall Bolton's first, by mid-field power man Sam Allardyce.

And why? Because in every respect it was a replica of one he scored against County when the teams met at Bolton last October. There was four months between the goals, but that was the only difference — they were both scored at the same end of the ground, from a corner kick on the same side of the field

taken by Peter Thompson.

OBLIGED

You won't need any more proof that Allardyce's height and weight are used by Bolton to capitalise on these set pieces, and he obliged last season with six league and cup goals.

Nor will you need any further reminding of the continuing threat of Peter Thompson, about whom I wrote extensively on this page last season. His skill and artistry continue to thrill crowds everywhere and threaten defences. All that now can be added about the veteran former Preston, Liverpool and England winger is that his appetite for the game remains undiminished after all these years.

Last season he missed only a handful of matches while continuing to lay on goal chances galore for Bolton's strikers. In the Stanley Matthews mould of feeding others rather than scoring himself Thompson landed only one goal (the winner against Hull in February) to bring his career goals total to a

modest 64 in nearly 550 club appearances.

STRENGTH

Out of 13 league matches to the end of the season Bolton won only four and by Easter, always such a critical time, they were out of the top three.

Apart from the strength of Allardyce and the skill of Thompson they look for striking power to Gary Jones and Neil Whatmore, joint leading scorers with 13 in league and cup; and for defensive strength to Paul Jones, their much-fancied number five.

But in the last few weeks Bolton have made it known that he is available for transfer, though they will part only in exchange for a huge fee.

As to experience, they have that nicely to complement to substantial youth of their side, with no better known player than Tony Dunne, the former Manchester United back who still does such a fine job.

They started the new season on a disappointing note by going down by two clear goals to the

improving Blackburn Rovers, their near neighbours, but they shrugged off this setback to defeat Orient by the same margin in mid-week.

INJURY

This win came on the day when that great servant John Byrom decided to quit soccer because of persistent injury problems. A Blackburn native he first shone with his local Rovers club, but the majority of his career was spent with Bolton who will miss his penetration — it gave him 113 goals for the club in nearly 300 outings.

So with Byrom gone and Paul Jones possibly going, there are signs of this strong and successful Bolton team just breaking up a little. Ian Greaves, who succeeded Jimmy Armfield as manager on his move to Leeds, is too experienced a man to allow these upsets to interfere unduly with his stated ambition of putting Bolton back where football generally agrees they belong: in the First Division.

In the end they won just sympathy

HALF-TIME SCOREBOARD

A	Blackburn Blackpool	
B	Carlisle Hull City	
C	Fulham Bristol Rovers	
D	Hereford Burnley	
E	Luton Forest	
F	Milwall Chelsea	
G	Oldham Cardiff	
H	Orient Plymouth	
J	Southampton Sheffield Utd	
K	Wolves Charlton	
L	Arsenal Man. City	
M	Aston Villa Ipswich	
N	Bristol City Sunderland	
P	Leeds Derby	
Q	Leicester Everton	
R	Liverpool Coventry	
S	Man. Utd. Tottenham	
T	Middlesbrough Newcastle	
U	Norwich Birmingham	
V	QPR West Bromwich	
W	Mansfield Grimsby	

Lane line-up

NOTTS. COUNTY

From

Eric McManus
Pedro Richards
Ray O'Brien
Eric Probert
David Needham
Brian Stubbs
John Sims
Mick Vinter
Tristan Benjamin
David McVay
David Smith
Ian Scanlon
Arthur Mann
Steve Carter

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Today's referee is

Mr. D. W. Lloyd
of Fernhill Heath, Worcs.

Mr. Lloyd began refereeing in 1956 and graduated through local Worcester and West Midland Regional Leagues to Football League. Refereed the 1973 F.A. Amateur Cup semi-final and was linesman in a UEFA Cup match in Hungary in 1974. Once played amateur football for Stoke and professional for Worcester.

LINESMEN

Red Flag:

Mr. J. Ball
(Braunstone, Leicester)

Yellow Flag:

Mr. G. J. Napthine
(Sileby, Leicester)

BOLTON

From

Barry Siddall
John Ritson
Tony Dunne
Roy Greaves
Paul Jones
Sam Allardyce
Willie Morgan
Neil Whatmore
Steve Taylor
Peter Reid
Brian Smith
Peter Nicholson

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